

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 00666 181412Z
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SUBJ: IMPERIAL COMMISSION MEETING PUBLICIZES CRITICISM
OF GOI PROJECTS

1. THE NINTH GENERAL MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL COMMISSION WAS OPENED JAN. 17 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF NOSRATOLLAH MOINIAN, CHIEF OF THE SHAH'S SECRETARIAT. SESSION WAS ATTENDED BY PRIME MINISTER AMOUZEGAR AND OTHER CABINET MEMEBERS. MOINIAN, IN HIS OPENING REMARKS, STRESSED "THOSE WHO ACT AGAINST THE GLORY OF IRAN WILL SUFFER". REMINDING HIS AUDIENCE, "IT IS NOT LONG SINCE THE OCCUPATION OF IRAN AND THE START OF THE DARK YEARS WHEN THE MIGHTY SAT IN THEIR CAPITALS DECIDING THE FUTURE OF THIS ANCIENT LAND. ONLY ONE PERSON STOOD AGAINST THEM." REFERRING TO SPATE OF RECENT HIGHLEVEL VISITS TO IRAN, MOINIAN SAID, "EVEN THE BIGGEST LEADERS OF THE WORLD COME TO IRAN SAYING THAT THEY HAVE COME TO LEARN FROM THE SHAHANSHAH, TO CONSULT HIM, AND TO SEEK HIS GUIDANCE."

2. A CONDENSED 70 PAGE REPORT ON THE FINDING OF THE IMPERIAL COMMISSION COMMITTEES WAS PRESENTED. ACCORDING TO MOINIAN, THREE LESSONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM THE STUDY:

1) THE NEW GENERATION MUST BE ALERT TO PREVENT WASTE AND INEFFICIENCY AND THERE IS NO ROOM FOR IRRESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR IF PRINCIPLES OF THE REVOLUTION ARE TO BE
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 00666 181412Z

ACHIEVED; 2) PROJECTS MUST BE RAISED ON A LOGICIAL ASSESSMENT OF FINANCIAL, MANPOWER AND OTHER RESOURCES; 3) GOI PLANNING AUTHORITIES MUST CONSTANTLY SUPERVISE AND FOLLOW UP EACH PROJECT TO AVOID "IRREPARABLE LOSSES".

3. SPECIFIC CRITICISM WAS LEVELED BY THE COMMISSION IN KEY AREAS, SUCH AS MEDICAL CARE, IN A REPORT PREPARED BY

THE MEDICAL AND SOCIAL INSURANCE COMMITTEE WHICH REVEALED MALPRACTICE, INEFFICIENCY AND MISMANAGEMENT AT VARIOUS HOSPITALS. THE COMMISSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTED ON SEVERAL INSTANCES OF MISMANAGEMENT IN RURAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BUT ALSO NOTED THAT AN UNANNOUNCED INSPECTION HAD FOUND THE EDUCATION CORPS FOR GIRLS TRAINING CENTER HAD THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF CLEANLINESS. THE COMMISSION'S POWER COMMITTEE INSPECTED A NUMBER OF POWER STATIONS AND RELATED PROJECTS AND REVEALED DELAYS IN COMPLETION OF THE STATIONS IN QOM AND SHAHABAD. OTHERS, HOWEVER, HAD BEEN COMPLETED ON SCHEDULE. THE COMMISSION ALSO COMMENTED ON COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS, SUGGESTING THAT INCREASED CREDIT BE EXTENDED TO COOPERATIVES AND THAT RURAL COOPERATIVE RETAIL SHOPS BE EXPANDED. CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION WAS FOCUSED ON THE PORTS AND SHIPPING ORGANIZATION WHICH WAS HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR "UNREASONABLE DELAYS" LEADING TO INEFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BANDAR SHAHPOUR DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND CONGESTION AT THAT PORT. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATION SUBJECT TO CRITICISM WERE PRESENT AND GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS. THE MEETING WAS TELEVISED AND RECEIVED WIDESPREAD PRESS COVERAGE.

4. PRIME MINISTER AMOUZEGAR, COMMENTING ON THE COMMISSION REPORTS, PLEDGED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD

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PAGE 03 TEHRAN 00666 181412Z

FOCUS INCREASED ATTENTION ON DEVELOPMENT OF PROVINCIAL TOWNS. HE REPORTEDLY POINTED OUT THAT SOME OF THE SHORTCOMING REVEALED BY THE COMMISSION WERE PERHAPS THE RESULTS OF NON-COMPETITIVE FIRMS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. HE SAID THAT THE HIGH COST OF IRANIAN PRODUCTS MUST BE INVESTIGATED AND HINTED THAT SOME IRANIAN INDUSTRIALISTS HAD INDULGED IN LAND SPECULATION WITH MONEY AND CREDITS OBTAINED FROM BANKS AND LOANS RATHER THAN INVESTING THEM IN THEIR BUSINESS FIRMS.

5. COMMENT: IT WAS INTERESTING THAT MOINIAN WRAPPED HIS INTRODUCTORY REMARKS IN SAME PATRIOTIC THEME RESERVED IN PAST FOR SUCH EVENTS AS THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS FROM AZERBIJAN BUT WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING INSERTED WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY IN OTHER MAJOR GOI PRONOUNCEMENTS SUCH AS AT RECENT RASTAKIZ PARTY CONGRESS. LATEST MEETING OF THE COMMISSION CONTINUES PRACTICE OF SUMMER SESSIONS WHICH ENCOURAGED "CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM" AND PUBLICIZED SHORTCOMING OF GOI PROGRAMS.

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